

Message Text

SECRET

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41

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P 061220Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8257

S E C R E T BUCHAREST 1370

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, KN, RO, XF

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN DESIRE TO PASS PROPOSAL FOR PEACE
TREATY TO US CONGRESS VIA ROMANIANS

1. ROMANIAN FOREIGN MIN MACOVESCU CALLED IN AMBASSADOR APRIL 6 TO SAY THAT GOR HAS RECEIVED REQUEST FROM NORTH KOREANS TO PASS A LETTER FROM NORTH KOREAN PARLIAMENT TO US SENATE AND HOUSE. ALTHOUGH ROMANIANS HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED TEXT OF THE LETTER, THEY UNDERSTAND BASIC IDEA IS TO PROPOSE "TREATY OF PEACE" BETWEEN US AND NORTH KOREA. NORTH KOREANS HAVE NOTED SOUTH KOREAN PROPOSAL FOR NON-AGGRESSION TREATY BETWEEN TWO KOREAS BUT NORTH KOREA FINDS THIS IMPRACTICAL IN VIEW OF PRESENCE OF US TROOPS IN SOUTH KOREA. MACOVESCU SAID ROMANIAN HAS NO OFFICIAL OPINION ON SUBSTANCE BUT IN VIEW OF LACK OF REALTIONS BETWEEN US AND NORTH KOREA AND ROMANIA'S GOOD RELATIONS WITH US, IT IS PREPARED TO FORWARD MESSAGE VIA ROMANIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO SENATE AND HOUSE BUT ONLY WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH. HE ADDED THAT ROMANIANS HAD ASKED ABOUT PASSAGE OF MESSAGE AT UN BUT KOREANS UNWILLING TO TAKE THIS AVENUE BECAUSE KOREANS THERE HAVE NOT STATUS VIS A VIS US. MACOVESCU ADDED HIS OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD THING FOR US GOVERNMENT TO AGREE TO MESSAGE BEING RECEIVED IN MANNER INDICATED WHICH NEED NOT IMPLY LIKELIHOOD OF RESPONSE MUCH LESS OF ANY PARTICULAR VIEW REGARDING CONTENTS, AS IT MIGHT LEAD TO PROGRESS. HE NOTED THAT NORTH KOREAN ATTITUDE HAD BECOME LESS RIGID IN RECENT ITMES.

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REFERRING ONCE AGAIN TO WHAT HE UNDERSTANDS TO BE TEXT OF

LETTER, MACOVESCU SAID HE GATHERED IT PROPOSED SOME SORT OF CONTACTS BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND US.

2. MACOVESCU SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT MESSAGE TO BE READY FOR DELIVERY FOR ANOTHER WEEK OR TWO SINCE (A) KOREANS HAD NOT DELIVERED MESSAGE ITSELF TO GOR AND (B) MESSAGE WOULD NOT BE TRANSMITTED UNTIL AMBASSADOR BOGDAN RETURNED TO US. MACOVESCU SAID A NORTH KOREAN VISIT (UNSPECIFIED LEVEL) TO EASTERN EUROPE WAS PROGRAMMED FOR LATE APRIL (HE MENTIONED APRIL 26) AND SAID NORTH KOREAN VISITOR WAS SCHEDULED TO COME TO BUCHAREST DURING THIS TOUR. MACOVESCU OPINED THAT LETTER WOULD BE GIVEN TO ROMANIANS AT THAT TIME.

3. SHOULD REPLY ON US GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE BE FORTHCOMING WHILE MACOVESCU IS IN THE US, MACOVESCU ASKED THAT MESSAGE BE CONVEYED BY AMBASSADOR TO GLIGA AS ACTING FOREIGN MIN.

4. MACOVESCU SAID HE WOULD HOPE TO HAVE CHANCE TO TALK BRIEFLY WITH THE SECRETARY IN NEW YORK, THOUGH HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE PRESSURES ON THE SECRETARY'S TIME. IF HE DID SEE HIM, HE WOULD TOUCH ON THE KOREAN MATTER. IN ADDITION HE WOULD SHARE WITH THE SECRETARY HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION BASED ON HIS HAVING BEEN PRESENT AT ALL OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S MEETINGS WITH ARAB LEADERS INCLUDING ARAFAT, IF THIS WERE OF INTEREST TO THE SECRETARY.

5. MACOVESCU EXPECTS TO LEAVE SUNDAY NIGHT, APRIL 14, FOR BUCHAREST, HE SAID, AND MAY COME TO WASHINGTON FOR HALF A DAY BUT HAD NO SPECIAL REQUEST AT THIS POINT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION WHETHER HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANYING CEAUSESCU TO WARSAW (FOR THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE SESSION) HE ONLY LAUGHED AND SAID, "YOU'RE WELL INFORMED." HE ALSO NOTED DATE OF HIS RETURN FROM NEW YORK IN THAT CONNECTION.

6. DEPARTMENT PASS AS DESIRED.
BARNES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUCHAR01370
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740078-0541
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740461/aaaacdno.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTH KOREAN DESIRE TO PASS PROPOSAL FOR PEACE TREATY TO US CONGRESS VIA ROMANIANS
TAGS: PFOR, KN, RO, XF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005